

the frontier against danger from Maxentius, th-Lactantius explains it otherwise. Maximian w; till sufficient time had elapsed for Constantii be well across the Rhine, and then began to sf rumours of his having been defeated and sla. battle. For the third time, therefore, he assi the purple, seized the State treasuries, and command of the legions, offering them a large c tive, and appealing to their old loyalty. The u ation was entirely successful for the moment, when Constantine heard of the treachery he hu back, leaving the affairs of the frontier to s themselves.

Constantine knew the military value of mob and his soldiers eagerly made his quarrel their There is an amusing passage in the Seventh I gyric* in which the orator says that the tr shewed their devotion by refusing the offer of cial travelling-money (*viatica*) on the ground tl would hamper them on the march. Their gene pay, they said, was more than sufficient, thoug Roman army before this time had ever been kr to refuse money. Then he describes how marched from the Rhine to the Aar without yet with unwearied bodies; how at Chalons (Cal num) they were placed on board river boats, found the current too sluggish for their impct eagerness to come to conclusions with the tn and cried out that they were standing still; how, even when they entered the rapid curren the Rhone, its pace scarcely satisfied their an